



2017 Wisconsin Budget Address Agriculture and Natural Resources

“Accountable government also means investing resources where they are needed. It means helping family farmers improve their operations to limit run off.”

- Provides \$825,000 SEG in fiscal year 2017-18 and \$825,000 SEG in fiscal year 2018-19 for additional support in order to fully fund demand for cost-sharing nonpoint source abatement projects and other land and water conservation activities performed by counties. Total funding for the program will be set at \$3,325,000 SEG, an increase of 24 percent over base level funding. (Budget in Brief)
- Continues funding of \$250,000 GPR in fiscal year 2017-18 and \$250,000 GPR in fiscal year 2018-19 for producer-led watershed grants. (Budget in Brief)
- Requires the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to provide a high priority on the presence of impaired water and agricultural enterprise areas when evaluating nutrient management grant applications, to ensure those proposals have the greatest consideration. (Budget in Brief)
- Provides an additional \$7,000,000 in SEG-supported general obligation bonds for grants to counties for land and water resource management plans. (Budget in Brief)
- Directs the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and the Department of Natural Resources to conduct a study on the feasibility of transferring the permitting process for concentrated animal feeding operations from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. (Budget in Brief)
- Transfers 4.0 FTE positions from other natural resources activities to support water quality management activities, including additional support for the concentrated animal feeding operations program. This will provide for an additional \$282,000 SEG in fiscal year 2017-18 and \$282,000 SEG in fiscal year 2018-19 for the program. (Budget in Brief)
- Provides additional environmental bonding of \$5,900,000 for nonpoint source pollution abatement-targeted runoff management bonding, and \$3,000,000 for urban nonpoint cost-sharing. (Budget in Brief)
- Provides \$640,000 SEG in fiscal year 2017-18 and \$640,000 SEG in fiscal year 2018-19 for watershed nonpoint source contracts and other environmental aids for local communities, strengthening the State’s commitment to water quality education and safety.